

News Release

The Princeton Review Names the U of M, Crookston to "Best Value Colleges"

By Itollems on Wednesday, February 8, 2012

The University of Minnesota, Crookston has been named to the Princeton Review's "Best Value Colleges: 2012 Edition."

The list of best value colleges, announced Tuesday, February 7, 2012 on the Princeton Review website and in USA TODAY, features 75 public and 75 private colleges and universities. The U of M, Crookston was listed among the 75 "Best Value Public Colleges." The annual list is a project the education services company launched in 2004 identifying America's top undergraduate schools offering excellent academics, generous financial aid, and/or relatively low cost of attendance.

The Princeton Review bases its rankings on surveys of administrators and students at 650 institutions it identified as having excellent academics. The selection criteria examined more than 30 factors in the areas of academics, cost of attendance and financial aid, using data from surveys conducted from fall 2010 through fall 2011. This year's list included colleges in 37 states and the District of Columbia, with California having the most schools represented: 19. Fifty-six colleges, including the U of M, Crookston, are new to the list this year.

Using institutional data and the student opinion surveys collected, the Princeton Review selected its "Best Value" list based on data supplied by more than 650 colleges. The top schools were chosen based on academics, the cost of attending, and the amount of aid provided to students. The Princeton Review asserts some of the high-tuition schools on the list keep out-of-pocket costs down by offering generous financial aid packages.

More than 30 data points were assessed across three primary areas: academics, cost of attendance, and financial aid. Cost and financial aid data along with academic data came from the Company's surveys of school administrators. The Princeton Review also factored in data from surveys of students attending the schools who shared assessments of their professors and their satisfaction with their financial aid awards.

4 colleges in Minnesota made the list of 150:

- Crookston / University of Minnesota - Crookston
- Minneapolis / University of Minnesota - Twin Cities
- Northfield / Carleton College
- St. Paul / Macalester College

No North Dakota colleges were named to the list this year.

In recent years, the U of M, Crookston has seen its academic reputation garner national recognition including being named in the top three in the U.S.News and World Report "Top Public Regional Colleges" and the their inaugural Top Online Education Program rankings.

Another important feature of the Crookston campus is its "one-rate" tuition, which maintains the same rate for students from any state or country as for Minnesota resident students.

For more information, visit www.princetonreview.com/best-value-colleges.aspx. USA TODAY's coverage can be found at bestvaluecolleges.usatoday.com. Users can click on an exclusive interactive map and access a database with stats and facts about each "Best Value" college plus a report on why the Princeton Review colleges were named a "Best Value." The Princeton Review has teamed up with USA TODAY to present this resource online since 2009.

Today the University of Minnesota, Crookston delivers 26 bachelor's degree programs, 18 minors, and 36 concentrations, including 10 online degrees, in the areas of agriculture and natural resources; business; liberal arts and education; and math, science and technology. With an enrollment of 1,600 undergraduates from 25 countries and 40 states, the Crookston campus offers a supportive, close-knit atmosphere that leads to a prestigious University of Minnesota degree. "Small Campus. Big Degree." To learn more, visit www.umcrookston.edu.

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